IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend Claim 60 as shown below. The claims, as pending in the subject application, now read as follows:

1. to 51. (Canceled)

52. (Previously presented) A data transmission method used between a data supply device and a target device, said method comprising the steps of:

locking the target device such that the target device does not receive communication control from another device;

transmitting capability information of the target device to the data supply device from the target device after the target device is locked; and

transmitting data to the locked target device from the data supply device based on the capability information.

53. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 52, wherein the capability information includes buffer information which indicates a buffer size of receiving data of the target device or the number of available buffers of the target device.

54. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 53, wherein the data supply device transmits the data in a unit of the data amount indicated by the buffer information, and the target device receives the data transferred in the unit.

55. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 52, wherein the data supply device and the target device are connected by a bus adapted to or based on IEEE 1394 standards or Universal Serial Bus standards.

56. (Previously presented) A data supply apparatus for transmitting data to a target device, said apparatus comprising:

a locker, arranged to lock the target device such that the target device does not receive communication control from another device;

a receiver, arranged to receive capability information of the target device from the target device after the target device is locked; and

a transmitter, arranged to transmit data to the locked target device based on the received capability information.

57. (Previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 56, wherein the capability information includes buffer information which indicates a buffer size of receiving data of the target device or the number of available buffers of the target device.

58. (Previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 57, wherein said transmitter transmits the data in a unit of the data amount indicated by the buffer information.

59. (Previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 56, wherein the apparatus and the target device are connected by a bus adapted to or based on IEEE 1394 standards or Universal Serial Bus standards.

60. (Currently amended) A method of controlling a data supply device which transmits data to a target device, said method comprising the steps of:

locking the target device such that the target device does not receive communication control from another device;

receiving capability information of the target device from the target device after the target device is locked; and

transmitting data to the locked target device based on the received capability information.

61. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 60, wherein the capability information includes buffer information which indicates a buffer size of receiving data of the target device or the number of available buffers of the target device.

62. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 61, wherein the transmitting step transmits the data in a unit of the data amount indicated by the buffer information.

63. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 60, wherein the data supply device and the target device are connected by a bus adapted to or based on IEEE 1394 standards or Universal Serial Bus standards.